In re Patent Application of:
GORTY
Serial No. **10/776,423**
Filing Date: **February 11, 2004**

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REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination of the present application. Claims 42-55 have been cancelled. New Claims 56-69 have been added and represent the subject matter of Claims 42-55 rewritten for clarity. The patentability of the claims is discussed below.

I. The Claimed Invention

The present invention, as recited in new independent Claim 56, for example, is directed to a system for providing configuration data for remotely accessing electronic mail (email) on a plurality of source mailboxes. The system includes a user system comprising a plurality of email clients for accessing the plurality of source mailboxes, and a mailbox configuration data source having configuration parameters stored therein for configuring access to the plurality of source mailboxes from the plurality of email clients. The system also includes a web service for allowing the user system to access the plurality of source mailboxes, and a configuration module for retrieving from the mailbox configuration data source, without user intervention, respective configuration parameters for at least one source mailbox, and for transmitting the respective configuration parameters to the web service to configure the web service also without user intervention. The configuration module comprising an import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents corresponding to ones of the plurality of email clients for retrieving, without user intervention,

6

configuration parameters from the mailbox configuration data source and generating respective configuration data objects for each respective one of the plurality of source mailboxes.

New independent Claim 64 is directed to a corresponding method of new independent Claim 56.

II. The Claims are Patentable

The Examiner rejected Claims 42-55, now cancelled, as being anticipated by Smith et al. Smith et al. is directed to a universal mail wireless email reader. More particularly, Smith et al. discloses a universal mail application in communication with a plurality of email applications for any one subscriber. The email applications are defined by appropriate parameters stored in the corresponding email account information files. A multiple account compilation module communicates with the respective email application programs, downloading and/or uploading email message files with respect to a particular subscriber. All relevant configuration file information in the relevant email account information files are initially configured by mobile device users.

Applicant submits that Smith et al. fails to disclose a configuration module for retrieving from the mailbox configuration data source, without user intervention, respective configuration parameters for at least one source mailbox, and for transmitting the respective configuration parameters to the web service to configure the web service also without user intervention. Instead, Smith et al. discloses a multiple email account compilation module 120 that communicates with respective email application programs,

downloading and/or uploading email message files with respect
to a particular subscriber at any suitable time. (See Smith
et al., Paragraph 0027). All relevant configuration
information in the relevant email account information files
with respect to each of their various email accounts needs is
configured by users. (See Smith et al., Paragraph 0033). In
other words, a user must configure email account information
for each of the email accounts (i.e user intervention).
Accordingly, new independent Claims 56 and 64 are patentable
for at least this reason alone.

Applicant further submits that Smith et al. also
fails to disclose the configuration module comprising an
import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents
corresponding to ones of the plurality of email clients for
retrieving, without user intervention, configuration
parameters from the mailbox configuration data source and
generating respective configuration data objects for each
respective one of the plurality of source mailboxes. The
Examiner contended that the multiple email account compilation
module **120,** which receives information to access email
accounts using the email applications, somehow disclosed the
above-noted claim recitation.

Applicant submits that the Examiner has
mischaracterized Smith et al., as it discloses a multiple
email account compilation module **120** that communicates with
respective email application programs, downloading and/or
uploading email message files with respect to a particular
subscriber at any suitable time. (See Smith et al., Paragraph
0027). All relevant configuration information in the relevant
email account information files with respect to each of their

various email accounts needs is <u>configured by users</u>. (See Smith et al., Paragraph 0033). Moreover, there is nothing in Smith et al. that discloses or fairly suggests an import module having a plurality of mailbox import agents corresponding to ones of the plurality of email clients for retrieving, without user intervention, configuration parameters from the mailbox configuration data source and generating respective configuration data objects for each respective one of the plurality of source mailboxes.

Applicant notes that the Examiner contends that once set with the configuration information, the multiple configuration module **120** communicates with respective email programs to download and/or upload email message files without user intervention. Applicant submits that Smith et al., as noted above, requires <u>all</u> the configuration information be entered by the user. Only then can the configuration module communicate with respective email programs. In contrast, as recited in the new independent claims, configuration parameters are received and transmitted without user intervention. In other words, the configuration information does not need to be entered by the user.
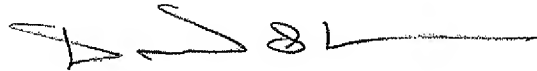
It is submitted that new independent Claims 56 and 64 are patentable over the prior art. Their respective dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features, are also patentable over the prior art and require no further discussion herein.

III. Conclusion

In view of the amendments and arguments presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If the Examiner determines any remaining informalities exist, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID S. CARUS
Reg. No. 59,291
Allen, Dyer, Doppelt, Milbrath
& Gilchrist, P.A.
255 S. Orange Avenue, Suite 1401
Post Office Box 3791
Orlando, Florida 32802
407-841-2330
407-841-2343 fax
Attorney for Applicant